

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (original) A method of preparing the surface of a coated structure for the application of an overcoat, the method comprising:  
cleaning the surface of the coat with cleaning solution; and  
applying an oxidising agent to the surface.
2. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the cleaning comprises soaking the surface of the coat with the cleaning solution.
3. (original) A method according to claim 2, wherein the soaking is for a time in the range from about 30 seconds to about 5 minutes.
4. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any preceding claim~~ Claim 1, wherein the cleaning comprises agitating the surface of the coat with the cleaning solution.
5. (original) A method according to claim 4, wherein the agitating is for a time in the range from about 30 seconds to about 20 minutes.
6. (original) A method according to claim 4, wherein the agitating is for a time in the range from about 2 minutes to about 10 minutes.

7. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims 4 to 6~~ Claim 4, wherein the agitating comprises agitating the surface with a brush.
8. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any preceding claim~~ Claim 1, wherein the cleaning comprises soaking the surface of the coat before agitating the surface with the cleaning solution.
9. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any preceding claim~~ Claim 1, wherein the cleaning solution is an alkaline cleaner.
10. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any preceding claim~~ Claim 1, wherein the cleaning solution is a water-based cleaner.
11. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any preceding claim~~ Claim 1, wherein the oxidising agent is peroxide.
12. (original) A method according to claim 11, wherein the peroxide is hydrogen peroxide.
13. (original) A method according to claim 12, wherein the concentration of the hydrogen peroxide is in the range from about 1% to about 10%.

14. (original) A method according to claim 12, wherein the concentration of the hydrogen peroxide is 3%.
15. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any preceding claim~~ Claim 1, wherein the applying the oxidising agent comprises spraying the oxidising agent onto the surface of the coat.
16. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any preceding claim~~ Claim 1, wherein the coat is paint.
17. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any preceding claim~~ Claim 1, wherein the coat is a primer.
18. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any preceding claim~~ Claim 1, wherein the overcoat is paint.
19. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any preceding claim~~ Claim 1, wherein the structure is metallic.
20. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any preceding claim~~ Claim 1, wherein the structure is formed of a composite material.

21. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any preceding claim~~ Claim 1, wherein the structure is an aircraft or aerospace structure.

22. (original) A method of applying an overcoat to the surface of a coated structure, the method comprising:

preparing the surface of the coat in accordance with the method of any preceding claim; and  
applying the overcoat.

Claim 23 (cancelled)

24. (currently amended) A coated structure wherein the structure has been treated in accordance with the method of ~~any preceding claim~~ Claim 1.

25. (original) A coated structure according to claim 24, wherein the structure is an aircraft or aerospace structure.

26. (original) A cleaning kit for preparing the surface of the coat of a coated structure for the application of an overcoat, the kit comprising a cleaning solution and an oxidising agent.